Carcinoid NOS of the Appendix: A Reportability Issue (UPDATED)

The following is applicable ONLY for cases diagnosed prior to 2015:

Did you know that a carcinoid NOS of the Appendix (C18.1) CAN be REPORTABLE under certain criteria? Yes, carcinoids of the appendix are reportable when they meet ANY of the following three conditions:

1. The pathologist designates the carcinoid as malignant.
2. Regional lymph nodes are positive for MALIGNANT carcinoid (not reportable if lymph nodes are reported to be involved with benign carcinoid disease).
3. There are discontinuous metastatic implants or involvement. Note that the implants/involvement must be designated as malignant. Many benign tumors will spawn implants that are also benign. If implants are benign, this is not a reportable tumor.

Neuroendocrine carcinoma is an NOS term that includes carcinoid tumors. The reportability requirements for CoC, the National Program of Cancer Registries (NPCR) CDC, and SEER National Cancer Institute have not changed. Carcinoids of the appendix are only reportable when they meet the criteria listed above. For example, a carcinoid NOS of the appendix that extends into the mesoappendiceal adipose tissue would not be reportable. Extension does not make a carcinoid NOS of the appendix reportable. Benign and borderline tumors can and do extend into surrounding tissue.

Please note that these guidelines apply only to a carcinoid NOS. Any other specific carcinoid histologies of an appendix site having a malignant behavior (/3) in ICD-O-3 are REPORTABLE. For example, a “goblet cell carcinoid” of the appendix is reportable. The ICD-O-3 code for goblet cell carcinoid is 8243/3.

Sources: SEER Sinq 20100050, 20071018 & 20061030

For cases diagnosed on 1/1/2015, and later, ALL CARCINOID NOS tumors of the Appendix will be considered malignant (8240/3) and thus reportable based on newly released ICD-O-3 updates.